House Resolution No. 3605

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who answered the patriotic call to national service during times of turmoil through their enlistment in the various branches which make up the United States military; and

Whereas, Clarence James "Jim" Burtchett was given into state care when his parents separated before he had reached the age where he could start school; and

Whereas, placed by the orphanage on a farm at the age of seven to earn his keep through labor and studies, Jim Burtchett left school after the eighth grade and then ran away from the farm to find work in Boonville clearing land with dynamite; and

Whereas, still considered to be under state care, Jim Burtchett joined the Civil Conservation Corps which paid him \$30 per month to fight fires and plant pine trees in Powers, Oregon; Seattle, Washington; and Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas, Jim Burtchett was eventually discharged from the CCC in Sedalia, Missouri, and walked the entire 125 miles to Marshfield to find his father and stepmother and to gain employment as a mechanic at his dad's garage located on Jackson Street; and

Whereas, Jim Burtchett was drafted into the Army and stationed in Korea with World War II occupation troops, after which time he worked for the city of Marshfield, Rost Lumber, Hutchens Industries, the Marshfield steel plant, and the city of Niangua; and

Whereas, now employed by Wal-Mart at the age of seventy-nine, Jim Burtchett stocks and assembles tables, chairs, lawn mowers, and grills in the lawn and garden department; and

Whereas, the beloved husband of the former Susie Perryman, Jim Burtchett is the loving father of James, Betty, Missy, Kim, and Keith, all of whom are proud of his membership with the Webster County American Legion Post #142, receipt of the Service to America award from the Webster County Veterans Memorial Association, and volunteer efforts with tornado cleanup in Stockton two years ago, the elderly, accident scenes, and helping to save the lives of a coworker and a Wal-Mart customer:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the accomplishments garnered by Jim Burtchett down through the years and to convey to him this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for many more years of continued success; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Clarence James "Jim" Burtchett of Niangua, Missouri.

Offered by _______ Representative Michael L. Cunningham District No. 145

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3605, adopted May 31, 2005.